



July 19, 2010

IVH Insights

NEWS FROM PERSONNEL SERVICES

by Dennis Mack

Deferred Comp Match Returns

As part of the strategy for cutting overall costs, the State Executive Council agreed to eliminate the employer match for employee 457 plans for contract-exempt employees through FY10. In negotiations with Unions, the same condition was implemented for employees covered by AFSCME and UE/IUP contracts. The estimated savings for this measure were approximately \$1.2 million. If you checked your pay stub for the last pay period, you will notice that the employer match is back. Any state employee interested in enrolling in this deferred compensation program should contact RIC (Retirement Investors Club) toll-free at 1-866-460-4692 or visit the RIC website at <http://ric.iowa.gov>.



Left: Dr. Steenblock gets "pied" by Gladys McIntire

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Commandant's Corner

Did you know that the west coast of the continental United States was bombed during WW II? In 1942 the Japanese Navy had a plan to bomb the entrance to the Panama Canal to interfere with shipping. They had submarines that carried a small float plane that could be launched at sea on bombing missions. They did two practice runs along the southwest Oregon coast. Their plan was to drop incendiary bombs on the heavily forested area creating large forest fires and causing panic among the citizens. The attempt was at dawn and the bombs were dropped and the pilot could see a ring of fire on the ground. He safely

returned to the submarine and it left the area.

This event, which caused no damage, marked the only time during WW II that an enemy plane had dropped bombs on the U.S. mainland. What the Japanese didn't count on was coastal fog, mist and heavy bouts of rain.

Fifty years later the Japanese pilot, who survived the war, returned to Oregon to help dedicate a historical plaque at the exact spot where his two bombs had impacted. The elderly pilot then donated his ceremonial sword as a gesture of peace and closure of the bombing of Oregon in 1942.

Dennis Mack

IVH Rallies for "Relay for Life" Fundraiser by Sarah Workman

A big thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Relay for Life Fundraiser a fun and successful event (photos above and on page 4). The pie throwing contest was once again a sweet success. A heartfelt thank you to all the candidates for being such good sports:

Don Harvey (1st place)

Gary Shortley (2nd place)

Dr. Steenblock (3rd place)

Heidi Tuttle

Julie Cole

Dee Hunter

Krystle Ulch

Melissa Sienknecht

Andy Burt

Also to the "pie throwers" for their generous donations to ensure proper delivery.

Parking spot winners were Lindsey Pippert, Robin Richardson, and Lana Comstock. Thanks to all that gave the wheel a spin and congratulations to those who won prizes. To everyone who brought and bought items for/from the bake sale and those that enjoyed the luncheon, your support is much appreciated. There are numerous helpers to thank including Jim Elliott and Larry Lemker for grilling, and Kristy Kelley, Joyce Myers, Wayne Pierson, and Steve Bovee and several nursing supervisors for luncheon help.

Over \$2,200 was raised for this year's event! You may continue to make donations to the American Cancer Society to Amanda Thill or Sarah Workman until July 27. Feel free to join us Saturday, July 31 from 6:00 pm to Sunday, August 1 at 6:00 am at the Marshalltown High School track for the Marshall County Relay for Life Walk and Celebration. Your generosity will help save lives and create more birthdays!





Heinz Hall Update

by Deb Thompson

C-H-A-N-G-E seems to be the word of the year noting numerous changes at IVH inside and out. Heinz Hall staff and residents are noticing the significant turnover in residents. We have had 15 residents discharge in the last three months. Three moved in with family or friends and the others to their own apartments, mostly in their home communities. We wish them well and we welcome all the new folks that have transferred to Heinz Hall. We continue to make every effort to ensure their transition is smooth and pleasurable.

Mark your calendar for the annual Heinz Hall Staff vs. Resident softball game. The game is scheduled for the afternoon of Friday, August 6. It's been known to provide some good entertainment!!

IVH Insights is a twice-monthly publication of the Iowa Veterans Home.

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ivhinsights@ivh.state.ia.us

Call ext. 4397 or
send to PR/Mktg Dept.

News from Continuous Improvement

Preparing for MDS 3.0

by Shannon McIntire

The MDS (Minimum Data Set) is a tool required by the government for implementing standardized assessment and for facilitating care management in nursing homes. We've been using MDS 2.0 for over 15 years at IVH. The federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is implementing MDS 3.0 for nursing facilities effective October 1, 2010. The goals of MDS 3.0 revision are to:

- ◆ Introduce advances in assessment measures
- ◆ Increase the clinical relevance of items
- ◆ Improve the accuracy and validity of the tool
- ◆ Increase the resident's voice by introducing more resident interview items

In order for the IRCC teams to be prepared for the change from MDS 2.0 to MDS 3.0, the IRCC Coordinating Committee will be providing in-services to staff throughout August in preparation for the October 1st deadline. Staff who currently complete MDS 2.0 will need to sign up using an on-grounds training request form for one of the upcoming in-services. For any questions related to MDS 3.0 education, please contact Shannon McIntire (x4516) or Heather Blais (x6316).

Congratulations and Good Bye



After 13 years of service to the residents and staff of IVH, Ann Hogle (pictured above) is leaving the Performance Improvement Department to take a position with the Quality Improvement/LEAN work unit of the Department of Human Services in Des Moines.

While at IVH, Ann worked in the Human Resources Department and the Business Office before moving to the Performance Improvement (PI) Department in 2003. Among her duties in PI were managing the facility performance plan, the facility annual report, the employee survey, and the resident quality of life survey. While in PI, Ann spearheaded many improvement efforts in her work with Kaizen teams, department performance measures, rapid continuous improvement initiatives and other LEAN efforts with a variety of departments and work units. She also was involved with the development of the REAL Committee, and the Insights newsletter. Ann also assisted on units with the rounding and PNA programs. She could always be counted on to help with special projects and events. I know I speak for many when I say her can-do attitude, enthusiasm, and smile will be missed.

Good luck in this new adventure, Ann, and I know we will see you back up here assisting with improvement events. ~ Jim Elliott

Nursing Department by Cindy Halstead

Recent highlights from the Nursing Department include the new Falls Policy that can be found under the Nursing Policies on Sharepoint. We have had many of the outlined practices in place for many years but related to some increase in the fall rate and some issues raised by the VA, procedures related to falls have been standardized. Please take a look at this policy and refer to it whenever there is a fall or if a resident is identified as "at risk" for falls. We will be following the implementation of the policy with auditing and reminders in the coming weeks.

The Nursing Department is also moving toward the implementation in the next few months of one MDS nurse for each unit on a trial basis. With the increased need for accuracy and consistency in MDS completion and the switch-over to a new version of the MDS, the time seems right to trial this on all units.

Finally, on a very sad note, I would like to acknowledge the recent passing of two RTWs, who spent many years here caring for our residents: Karen Jones (Malloy 2) and Megan Oelmann (Malloy 3). My condolences to the family, friends, co-workers and residents who will miss them.

Facilities Management *by Kathy Shannon*

The Phase 1 Project is continuing forward at a rapid pace. The last household footing for the Ulery Building (below left) has been poured and we expect the slab to be poured as soon as the ground dries from all the rain we have experienced recently. Framing is continuing on two households in the Ulery building. The Fox building (below right) is progressing well and one partial resident room mock-up will be completed soon. The steam piping across the circle drive has been completed and the sidewalk has been poured. The selection of art for the new buildings has been made and the costs are being analyzed to determine which of the selections can be purchased.



The Dack Day Room Expansion Project (below right) is continuing to move along well. The precast panels are being lifted into place by the crane that is taking up much of the construction area. The contractors are currently erecting portions of the walls. The area changes drastically when the weather is good, so we expect there to be great progress each week. **Reminder that the Dayrooms went offline July 6th and will be closed until next April.** The maintenance staff completed the temporary eating rooms on each floor of Dack last week.



The overhaul of the Dack and Malloy elevators (left) has been underway for several weeks. The contractors are working very hard to make this as painless as possible, but there have been challenges as the elevators are at the end of their expected life span and we continue to experience issues. The repair contractor has made himself as available as possible and has been on site to facilitate repairs almost daily. Everyone's patience during this time has been appreciated. Thank you to all who have been able and willing to take the stairs.

The Architect is still working on the design for the Dietary Floor Project. This will be bid this summer/fall with the construction starting after the first of the year. The Bulk Oxygen Relocation project has started. Due to this project, the parking behind the Carpenter/Paint Shop has been permanently closed.



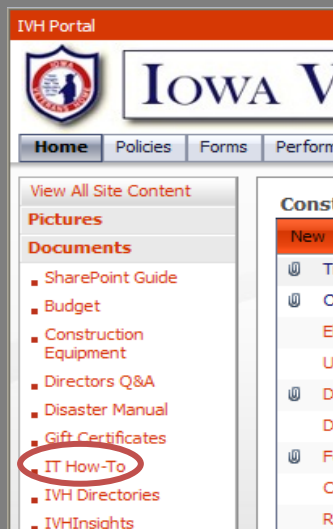
Technology Department *by Pat Williams*

Have you checked out the "IT How-To" document library on IVH SharePoint under Documents. Did you even know that it was there?

If you are wanting some help and before you contact the IT Help Desk, check this document library out. It has some information you might be able to use, such as:

- "How to Insert Clipart"
- "How to Recall an E-Mail Message"
- "How to Recover Deleted E-Mails"
- "How to get your Web Access (e-mails from home)."

If you have any questions or ideas for topics that are not listed, you can send your questions or ideas by e-mail to the IVH Help Desk and we will try to create something to meet your needs.



Another good source, especially if you are working with any of the Microsoft Office programs (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, etc) is the HELP feature they have. In some cases it's the "?" button located in the top right corner of your screen; or, you can get there by using the F1 key on your keyboard (top row of keys). Type in your keyword(s) and do a search. Example: You are using Excel and you want to insert a row – Press F1 key (or click on the "?" button); in the "search" box type in "insert row". A list of articles related to this subject appears. Choose which article is the closest match to what you want and open it. If it doesn't answer your question, click on the "back" button or arrow and the search list will display again.



IVH Website Calendar

Submit your event information on the IVH website calendar. It's quick and easy and the calendar is available to staff, residents, and the community. Log on to www.iowaveteranshome.org and click on "Calendar" to begin.

Upcoming Events

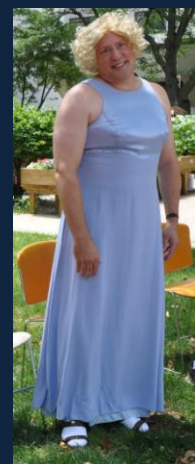
Day	Date	Time	Event	Location
Thurs	7/15 – Tues	7/27	Combat Paper Project exhibit at IVH	Across from IVH Library
Wed	7/21	8am-4:30pm	Dementia Class (use on-grounds training form)	Whitehill
Sat	7/24	1:30-3 pm	Benton Co. ALA Ice Cream Social for Residents	Atha Dining Room
Sat	7/31	2-3 pm	Deuces Wild Band plays for Residents	Malloy LRC
Sat 7/31	6 pm – Sun 8/1	6 am	Marshall County Relay for Life	Marshalltown H.S. Track
Wed	8/4	8am-4:30pm	Culture Change Training	Whitehill
Thurs	8/5	8am-4:30pm	Blitz Training	Whitehill

Announcements

I'm speechless.....that's hard to believe isn't it! Wow! What a send off I received from staff, residents and friends at my retirement bash on June 15. I want to thank each of you for making this a memorable event for me. After 30+ years and two retirements it still was very difficult to say goodbye. I truly enjoyed my years at IVH and have great memories that I will cherish. I'm planning on doing some volunteering at IVH so whenever you hear me in the hallway or hear me say "Go Hawks" don't hesitate to stop and chat. Even though I will miss being at IVH, I'm looking forward to enjoying time with family and friends. Thanks again for my wonderful years at IVH. Ellen Hutcheson ~ Go Hawks!!

Relay for Life Fundraiser photos

Left to right: Shellee Jordebek, Carl Trask and Don Harvey, Kristy Kelley and Jim Elliott, Gary Shortley, Amanda Thill



Budget Update *by Diana Steiner*

The fiscal year 2011 operating budget beginning July 1, 2010 is \$74,785,887 with 820 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. Some of our larger budget lines include: (a) Employee wages & benefits \$59 million, (b) Contracted professional & outside services \$3.3 million, (c) Transfers to & services from other state agencies \$2.5 million (d) Drugs \$1.9 million, (e) Food \$1.7 million, and (f) Utilities \$1.5 million.

We anticipate that we will receive approval from the federal VA to receive 65% reimbursement of the Medical Clinic in the very near future. This project was completed over 5 years ago and has been waiting for federal funding ever since. The \$727,000 will be returned to the State's General Fund when received since it fronted the project.

By this fall, we are also expecting to receive notification of award for the Master Plan phase 2 (Pavilion 2).

